



Africa Mercy | Fact Sheet



Emmanuel, Ghana
Cleft Lip Repair



Odilon, Benin
Tumor Removal



Veronique, Benin
Obstetric Fistula Repair



Recovery Ward



Operating Room



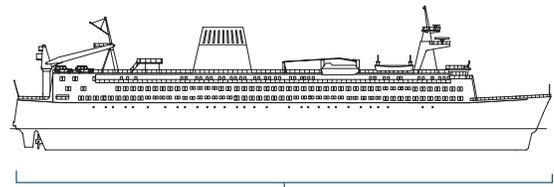
Crew Cabin



Bridge

History

The £30 million (\$62 million USD) refit of the former Danish rail ferry *Dronning Ingrid* into the *Africa Mercy* was made possible through a matching grant from the Oak Foundation, ongoing support from the BalCraig Foundation, corporate gifts-in-kind, trusts and individual contributors. Acquired in 1999 through an initial BalCraig Foundation donation, the ship was re-named the *Africa Mercy* by Dame Norma Major in April 2000. The conversion was completed at A & P Shipyard, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in March 2007. The refit was deemed the largest conversion project of its kind in the UK.



Africa Mercy - deployed 2007

Specifications

Length.....	152m
Breadth.....	23.7m
Gross Tonnage.....	16,572
Built.....	1980 Elsinore, Denmark
Registered.....	Malta
Crew Capacity.....	474
Cargo Capacity.....	1,724 m ³
Main Engines.....	4 B&W (3120 kW each)
Draft.....	6.0m
Surveyed By.....	Bureau Veritas

Facilities and Features

Hospital

The hospital covers most of the original rail deck – approximately 1,200 square meters. It is divided into quadrants containing supply/services, five operating rooms, a four-bed recovery, intensive care for up to five individuals and 80 ward beds. The volunteer crew provides free surgical procedures onboard including cataract removal/lens implants, tumor removal, cleft lip and palate reconstruction, orthopedics (clubfoot and bowed legs), women’s health (including obstetric fistula repair), plastic, and general surgeries as well as some ambulatory day surgery procedures. The hospital contains a CT Scanner, X-ray and laboratory services which support the surgical services.

Medical Capacity (Training and Infrastructure Development)

The *Africa Mercy* also serves as a platform to deliver high-quality training to local healthcare providers as a sustainable means of bolstering a country’s healthcare system. Training interventions ensure that healthcare providers use proper practices to reduce the risk of lengthy hospital stays, mishaps and hospital-acquired infections. These training courses are not only focused on surgical care (Safe Anesthesia Administration and Care, WHO Surgical Safety Checklist, Primary Trauma Care, and Essential Surgical Skills) but also various paramedical healthcare services (e.g. Biomed, Sterilization), and a nutritional agriculture training program. When appropriate, Mercy Ships may bolster these training efforts with equipment donations and/or facility renovations to ensure the trainees are as effective as possible.

Safety & Security

The vessel is fitted with an automatic sprinkler system throughout the accommodation and hospital areas. An addressable smoke detector system pinpoints the exact location of the source of any potential fire. Machinery spaces are covered by a CO₂ gas flooding system as well as a “Hi Fog” system, which can be very effective in controlling localized fires in the machinery space. Gurkha security guards man the gangway 24 hours a day with metal detectors and other screening devices. They are backed up by CCTV around the vessel, while critical spaces such as the bridge and engine room remain locked at all times.

Crew and Accommodation

The *Africa Mercy* has meeting and work spaces as well as berths for an average crew of 400 from up to 40 nations serving onboard at any given time. The 16,500-ton vessel has had over 10,000 crew from over 90 countries serve onboard since its inception in 2007. The 481 berths include 24 family cabins and 29 cabins for couples and shared and single cabins for individual occupants.